



Region 9 Works Council

MEETING NOTES

February 25, 2016, 10:00 AM- 12:00 AM

Held at SE Career Center

Versailles, Indiana

1. Meeting was called to order by Chris Lowery
2. Introduction of Council Members: Chris Lowery (Ivy Tech), Harold Wilson (Cummins), Stephanie Weber (EcO/CEC) via phone, Charlene Hall (Columbus Regional Health) via phone, Barry Parkhurst (NTN Driveshaft), Melissa Miller (Honda Mfg of Indiana), Kathy Huffman (CEC/ECO) via phone, Brad Street (SECC), Rebecca Reeves (DOE), Jan Holm (Batesville Tool & Die)
3. Introduction of Guests: Zach Smith (IN Commission for High ED), Chris Enstrum (IN Commission for Higher Ed), Kurt Kegerreis (SEIWIB), Jennifer O'Shea (DWD), Gene Hack (C4), Cheryll Obendorf (EcO - Ripley)
4. Minutes from the January meeting were approved
5. You Can, Go Back initiative
 - a. Zach Smith and Chris Enstrum from the Commission on Higher Education presented the new initiative to help adults with some credit toward a degree to go back and finished their degree. This supports the State goal of 60% of the adults holding a degree/certification by 2025. There are about 750.000 adults eligible. The Commission and learning institutions are reaching out to the candidates.
 - b. Support is available to address the different issues adults have with going back to school such as: adult learning grants for students, institutions willing to offer flexible schedules, asking employers to accommodate prospective adult students, and web site to support their investigation.
 - c. Our region volunteered to be part of any pilot. We also asked for access to the database and any demographic breakdown/analysis for our region.
 - d. Harold questioned how are skilled trades credits from the US Department of Labor apply and count toward this program
 - e. How do we "crack the nut" to inspire adult to go back to school.
 - i. Promote through WorkOne centers, Works Council, IMA, Region's Advanced Manufacturing network
 - ii. Honda has a semi-annual education fair. We could more fully integrate this with State's initiatives and create an example by having Bob Nelson, Commissioner Braun, and Commissioner Lubbers.

6. Skill Up grant update

- a. Region 9 proposal received grant funds of \$1.823 million and with the matching and in-kind funds the total for the 17 projects is \$2.549 million
- b. Region 9 received the 2nd largest amount and was the only recipient south of Indianapolis
- c. Kurt will make the summary presentation of the Skill Up grant available to us
- d. Should review the proposal/projects at a future Council meeting.

7. Updates by State and Regional Partners

- a. DWD - Jennifer reiterated the Skills Up grant award
- b. Workforce Development Board - Kurt shared a current National Able Network initiative relating to IT internships as part of the IT Career Lab. They are gauging interest and looking for businesses who think this is a good idea and willing to submit a Letter of Support.
- c. EcO15 - Cheryll mentioned the Ripley County career fair was this week. Also, she invited everyone to attend the Rube Goldberg competition at Jac-Cen-Del on the morning of Saturday, 03/05.
- d. AHEC - nothing to report
- e. Others - Brad mentioned the SECC's top 5 diesel students qualified for the State competition

8. Network Updates – Leaders

- a. Educational Attainment - nothing to report
- b. Manufacturing Sector - Regional network meeting on 03/04 at the Learning Center in Columbus starting at 11:30
- c. Health Care Sector - nothing to report

9. Other business

- a. Works Council needs to actively support regional initiatives, in particular the Skill Up grant projects.
- b. As Works Council members participate on regional projects, be sure to promote items in our Strategic Plan where appropriate.
- c. Based on today's discussion, the Council's next big focus could be related to Adult education
 - i. At the next meeting, dedicate 1 to 1.5 hours to a facilitated discussion regarding a cohesive adult strategy
 - ii. See if we can work out a date for a combined meeting with SEIWIB
- d. Poster program status
 - i. There is still a question concerning the roll out status, Chris will report at next meeting
 - ii. Kathy would like examples of the poster, Chris will follow up.

10. Adjournment

- a. Meeting was adjourned by Chris Lowery.
- b. Our next meeting will be held March 24th, 10:00 - 12:00 at Honda in Greensburg